

Among Mr. Kadens' many efforts to give back, Hope Chicago is one project that stands out as a testament to the values of leadership, philanthropy, and selflessness that make America so great. Founded by Pete Kadens and businessman Ted Koenig, the Hope Chicago project aims to raise at least \$1 billion over the next decade to fund post-secondary scholarships and non-tuition costs for graduates of Chicago Public Schools and their adult family members who are eager to return to school and update their own skills.

At a time when we are all fighting to create a more equitable economy and expand pathways into the middle class, removing barriers to educational attainment is critical. This is especially true in light of our nation's student loan crisis, which has saddled far too many Americans with crippling debt and made the prospect of post-secondary education even more out of reach for many low-income, first-generation students. It is estimated that 9 in 10 low-income, first-generation students drop out of higher education without a degree, and in my home state of Illinois, 61 percent of college grads who do earn a degree leave with debt. College is supposed to be a great equalizer in our country. Instead, these statistics provide a picture of higher education that exacerbates inequality between the haves and have-nots across America.

While we face significant challenges in overcoming this issue, leaders like Pete Kadens have committed to doing the hard work needed to create more opportunities for disadvantaged youth to obtain an advanced education. With the support and investment of partner schools and colleges, nonprofits, and corporate and philanthropic donors, Hope Chicago is fostering multigenerational change by working to enable approximately 30,000 individuals in the City of Chicago to go to college or trade school during the next decade. Just this year, Pete announced that Hope Chicago would cover full tuition costs for students at five high schools across Chicago. There is a long way to go, but the spirit of service that inspires this project is already transforming countless lives.

We could all benefit by dedicating our own time and resources to the cause of expanding opportunity for those in need and following the example set by Pete Kadens and Hope Chicago to create an America that prioritizes equitable access to education for all its children. After all, our future depends on it.

HONORING NOBEL LAUREATE ARDEM PATAPOUTIAN

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 13, 2022

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, it is my great honor today to recognize Dr. Ardem Patapoutian, a constituent, a neuroscientist, and a Nobel Laureate, who was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 2021.

Dr. Ardem Patapoutian was born in Lebanon in 1967 to Armenian parents. The youngest of three children, Ardem lived in Beirut until 1986 when he emigrated to Los Angeles,

California, to escape the Lebanese Civil War.

Upon arriving to the United States, Dr. Patapoutian worked as an editor for the English section of an Armenian newspaper and a pizza delivery driver before being accepted into the cell and developmental biology program at the University of California, Los Angeles, an admission that changed the course of his professional life.

Falling in love with research, he would go on to obtain a Ph.D. in Biology from the California Institute of Technology in 1996, and a postdoctoral appointment at the University of California, San Francisco. In 2000, he began the work at the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, California, that awarded him the Nobel Prize 21 years later.

Before being honored with the Nobel Prize, Dr. Patapoutian achieved a distinguished career as a scientist and professor. He was a co-recipient of, among many other awards, the 2020 Kavli Prize in Neuroscience. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a fellow at the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He has maintained a full professorship at Scripps Research since 2008 and is an investigator at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

Dr. Patapoutian's work focuses on mechanosensation, the process by which mechanical stimuli convert into biological signals that influence the functions of our bodies. Specifically, Dr. Patapoutian was awarded the Nobel Prize for his discoveries of how our body feels and processes temperature and touch. His breakthrough research will not only further the understanding of how our bodies work, but it will help create better medications and therapies to treat neuropathic pain, hypertension, blood disorders, and other conditions, improving the lives of residents of California's 49th Congressional District, our country, and the world.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF JAMES DONALD "BING" WILDMAN

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 13, 2022

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of James Donald "Bing" Wildman, 78, who passed away on Tuesday, July 5, 2022, at North Mississippi Medical Center in Tupelo. He was born August 8, 1943, in Sherman, MS to Fred Leo Wildman and Jamie Lee Davis Wildman. His name was synonymous with law enforcement in and around New Albany and Union County. He retired from New Albany Police Department, and even after retirement had helped the area departments when needed. Over the years, he had served as Assistant Chief of Police, Chief Deputy of the Sheriff's Department, and as a constable. He enjoyed fishing, camping, and playing dominos.

He was a member and deacon of Blue Springs Baptist Church. Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Friday, July 8, 2022, at United Funeral Service with Bro. Gary Yates

and Bro. Jeff Watts officiating. Burial was at Glenfield Memorial Park. United Funeral Service was honored to be entrusted with these arrangements. He is survived by his wife, Pat Seger Wildman, and his daughter, Robin Wildman, both of Blue Springs; two brothers, Danny Wildman (Shelia) of Moss Point, MS, and Fred Wildman of Pantego, TX; two granddaughters, Savannah Wildman and Peyton Wildman; and a great-granddaughter, Lailey James Wildman.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a son, Ronald Jeffrey Wildman; and a sister-in-law, Lura Wildman. Pallbearers were Chad Glasson, Clay Keener, Joe McDonald, Jeff Chism, Ricky Rorie. Joe Bryant, Tim Pannell, and Clay Hogue.

HONORING THE LIFE OF TZEITEL PARAS-CARACCI

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 13, 2022

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the life of the incomparable Tzeitel Paras-Caracci, who proudly served the City of Duarte as Mayor Pro Tem until her passing on June 25 at the age of 49, after a 3-year battle against lung cancer.

Born August 8, 1972, in Quezon City, Philippines, Ms. Paras-Caracci and her family moved to Duarte in 1985. She graduated from Duarte High School in 1989 and went on to graduate from the Woodbury University in Burbank before returning home to her beloved city.

A trailblazing, dedicated, and caring public servant, Ms. Paras-Caracci was the first Filipino-American to be elected to the Duarte City Council. She served as mayor in 2006, 2011, 2015, and 2019, and was the longest sitting United States Filipino-American municipal elected official in office.

Ms. Paras-Caracci participated in many 32nd District Congressional events, always proud to represent her city. She was a member of the National League of Cities Board of Directors, the League of California Cities Board of Directors, and President of the Asian Pacific American Municipal Officials. She was also a director for the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts, a governing board member of Foothill Transit, a board member of the Duarte Community Coordinating Council, and she was also a long-time member of the Duarte Woman's Club. One of her proudest accomplishments was initiating the Mayor's Youth Council to help students become familiar and active with government.

Ms. Paras-Caracci is survived by her parents, Lino and Russel Paras; her husband, K.C. Caracci, stepdaughter, Dr. Blake Caracci, and their son, Jack Russell; and her brothers, Bertrand and John Paul George.

I extend my deepest sympathies to the family, colleagues, friends, and constituents of Tzeitel Paras-Caracci, and I urge all my colleagues to join me in recognizing her life and public service. She will be sorely missed.